



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: August 10, 2000

Release Number: 00-75

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Internet Address: www.sba.gov/news/

SBA APPOINTS WILLIAM ELMORE TO HEAD OFFICE OF VETERANS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON - William (Bill) Elmore, an experienced advocate for veterans services, has been named the new associate administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Veterans Business Development, SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez announced today.

As associate administrator, Mr. Elmore will oversee and promote the development of small business resources designed to provide entrepreneurial development services to veterans owning or considering starting a small business. Such resources include business and management training, counseling and mentoring.

"I am very excited about having someone as qualified and talented as Bill representing the SBA's Office of Veterans Business Development," said Administrator Alvarez. **"Bill's knowledge of the needs of veterans will make him a highly effective associate administrator."**

Before Mr. Elmore's appointment as associate administrator, he served as the executive director of the Veterans Service Center in St. Louis, MO. As executive director, Mr. Elmore provided outreach, resource assistance and training to thousands of veterans and their families. He was responsible for administering more than \$5 million in grants and contracts. Mr. Elmore assisted in the implementation of the Veterans Entrepreneur Training (VET) Program in the St. Louis area and served as a member of SBA's Veterans Affairs Task Force for Entrepreneurship.

His numerous accomplishments and extensive expertise in veterans affairs earned him the United States House of Representatives Small Business Committee Veteran Advocate of the Year Award. The SBA named him as the Veteran Advocate Winner in the State of Missouri for 1984, 1998 and 1999.

Mr. Elmore is active on many advisory boards, commissions and boards of directors, including the Veterans Advisory Committees for Congressmen James Talent and Richard Gephardt and SBA's National Advisory Board for the Small Business Development Center Program. He has also operated his own small business, which provides national veterans advocacy and policy and program implementation. He holds a bachelor's degree in urban affairs and community service from St. Louis University.

Additional information about SBA's programs and services is available at SBA's Web site: <http://www.sba.gov> or by calling the SBA's Answer Desk at 1-800 U ASK SBA.

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